

## Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

David A. Clarke Jr.

Sheriff

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## \*\*Winter Storm Traffic Advisory\*\*

MILWAUKEE, WI — The National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning for all of southern Wisconsin. **Heavy snow** and **strong winds** are expected tonight over south central and southeast Wisconsin. With the current forecast of snowfall ranging from six to twenty inches, strong winds and drifting snow, road conditions in Milwaukee County will be hazardous. Sheriff David Clarke is asking motorists to be cautious when driving. He recommends that motorists slow down, increase their following distance between vehicles and wear a seatbelt.

The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office will deploy extra patrol squads during the storm. Crashes with injuries and crashes that impede the traffic flow will be priorities. The best way to reduce the risk of being involved in a winter weather-related crash is to postpone travel. Please remind the public to keep the following in mind:

- 1. Before driving, clear snow/ice from ALL windows, brake lights, headlights, hood, and roof of the car. Make sure the tires and battery are good and the heat/defrosters work. Make sure you have at least ½ a tank of fuel.
- 2. <u>Slow down</u>, pay attention and be aware of changing road conditions. Wait until safely reaching your destination to make phone calls, eat, etc.
- 3. Keep basic emergency supplies in your car. Blankets, extra clothing, non-perishable food, gloves, bottles of water, shovel, etc.
- 4. **Move Over**. When motorists obey the "*Move Over*" law and create a safety zone, they reduce the danger to all. Drivers who do not follow this law can be fined \$243.00 and assessed three points for this violation.

The Sheriff's Office has three (3) twenty-four hour satellite accident reporting sites. Citizens involved in minor accidents with no injuries and can safely drive their motor vehicle should report to one of these sites within twenty-four hours of the accident occurring, to file an accident report. The following is a list of the satellite accident reporting sites:

- Patrol Substation 10190 Watertown Plank Road, Wauwatosa
- Milwaukee County Criminal Justice Facility 949 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street
- <u>Airport Substation</u> 5300 S. Howell Avenue

As a reminder, during snow emergency abandoned and disabled vehicles on the highway will be towed.